



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

## SR 99 tunnel contractor to host March 28 contracting event for disadvantaged firms

**Date: Friday, March 15, 2013**

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### Construction of tunnel operations buildings will provide subcontracting opportunities

#### Correction: Event address

SEATTLE – Seattle Tunnel Partners, the Washington State Department of Transportation's design-builder for the State Route 99 Tunnel Project, will host an open house this month for disadvantaged businesses to learn about upcoming contracting opportunities associated with the tunnel operations buildings.

"I attended one of these events last year and learned about upcoming work in my company's area of expertise," said Mary Guthmiller, president of DBE Electric Inc. of Auburn. "We were able to procure a contract and are happy to be part of this exciting project."

The project's goal is 8 percent or \$91.2 million of the contractible portion of Seattle Tunnel Partners \$1.35 billion contract. They have awarded approximately \$30 million of work to more than 60 disadvantaged businesses, but need to award an additional \$61 million.

"We have a lot of work coming up that we know disadvantaged firms can complete," said Seattle Tunnel Partners Project Manager Chris Dixon. "We urge firms that are qualified or seeking certification to join us to learn about opportunities with the project."

Seattle Tunnel Partners hosted eight similar events since starting work on the project in early 2011. The meetings, along with day-to-day outreach to disadvantaged businesses, help level the playing field for minority and women-owned businesses.

Construction projects that are built using federal funds must use certified disadvantaged businesses to complete some of the work. WSDOT sets individual project goals for contractors to use certified businesses owned by women and minorities. Goals are based on formulas that consider the type of project work; the location and size of the project; and the availability of ready, willing and able disadvantaged businesses to perform work on the project.

"Providing opportunities for disadvantaged firms on this project is an important priority for us," said Linea Laird, administrator of the SR 99 Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program. "We're working closely with our Office of Equal Opportunity and the State's Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises to help Seattle Tunnel Partners meet their goal."

#### Meeting details

The open house will be hosted at South Seattle Community College. It will include information about future contracts, including plans and specifications. Participants will have time to ask questions and have one-one-one discussions with contractor team members.

The information and staff available will focus on scopes of work for the tunnel operation buildings in the following areas: structural and miscellaneous steel, building envelope, interiors, finishes, mechanical, electrical and plumbing.

8:30 – 11 a.m.

Thursday, March 28, 2013

South Seattle Community College, Georgetown Campus, Building C

**6737 Corson Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108**



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